* Intensification of Information Education and Communication (IEC) activities for public awareness and community participation.

* Institutional and management capacity building, manpower development through intensive re-orientation programme at all levels and efficient Management Information system (MIS).

* Implementation of an Enhanced Malaria Control Project (EMCP) with World Bank support under the National Anti Malaria Programme (NAMP) since September, 1997 covering 100 predominantly tribal highly malaria endemic districts of 7 peninsular States namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan and 19 cities/towns having high endemicity of malaria in these States and the States of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal for intensification of Malaria Control activities by way of additional inputs through a mix of interventions.

* Providing 100% Central assistance to the 7 North Eastern States since December, 1994 under NAMP.

Prevention of AIDS

971. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Times of India, Calcutta edition of 10th October, 1998 under the caption "3.5 million Indians carry AIDS virus", if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto;

(b) the percentage of such person to world's AIDS affected person;

(c) the measures taken to take care of such patients, both social and medical care; and

(d) the preventive measure taken to stop further spread of HIV in our country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH

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AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM): (a) Yes, Sir, National AIDS Control Organisation had estimated 3.5 million HIV infections in the country as on mid-1998.

(b) As per the WHO/UN AIDS global update, 33.4 million people are living with HIV virus as on December, 1998. The percentage of such persons in India as compared to World's AIDS affected persons is 10.4%.

(c) and (d) The National AIDS Control Programme was started in 1987. The present II Phase of the National AIDS Control Project was started on 9th November, 1999 with following components:

1. Reduction in the spread of HIV in groups at highest risk like Commercial Sex Workers, Intravenous Drug Users etc. by identifying target populations and providing peer counselling, condom promotion, treatment of sexually transmitted infections etc.

2. Prevention interventions for the general population through

   (a) IEC and awareness campaigns;
   (b) Provide voluntary testing and conselling;
   (c) Reduction of transmission by blood transfusion; and
   (d) Management of occupational exposure.

3. Low Cost Care for people living with HIV/AIDS through home and community based care and management of opportunistic infections in HIV infected persons and AIDS cases.

4. Institutional strengtherning for technical, managerial and financial sustainability at National, State and Municipal levels.

5. Inter-sectoral collaboration to promote collaborations amongst the public, private and voluntary sectors. This includes learning from the innovative HIV/AIDS programmes that exists in other sectors; and sharing in the working of generating awareness, advocacy at delivering interventions.